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NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The Board of Directors of the American Peace Society held its first Autumn meeting on the 7th of October. Hon. Robert Treat Paine, president of the Society, was still absent in Europe.

Resolutions expressive of great respect and high appreciation were passed in memory of the late Dr. A. A. Miner, Cornelius T. Dunham and Hon. David K. Hitchcock all of whom had been active and faithful members of the Board for many years, and had deceased since its last meeting.

A bequest of \$200 from the estate of Caroline A. Parcher, late of Ellsworth, Maine, deceased, was gratefully accepted by the Board.

The President and Secretary of the Society were appointed a Committee to promote in any way that might seem desirable the acceptance by our government of the proposal of the French Government, through the recent vote of the Chamber of Deputies, for a permanent treaty of arbitration between the two countries.

The Committee was instructed to give attention also to the subject of the treaty of arbitration between Great Britain and the United States which has been so long under consideration on both sides of the water; and also to see what can be done for the revival of the Pan-American Treaty which has lapsed from the failure of the American governments to ratify it.

The Board will hold regular meetings every two months during the winter and spring.

Two important peace congresses have been held in Europe during the past summer, one at Berlin at the end of July, the other at Stockholm from the 3d to the 5th of August. The Berlin congress was attended by delegates from fourteen of the German peace societies. The Scandinavian congress was attended by more than a hundred delegates coming from Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland. Several members of parliament were in the congress, which was presided over by Mr. Wawrinsky, a member of the Swedish Parliament. This congress, after an interesting discussion on the teaching of history in the schools, made a strong protest against celebrations which keep up the memory of battles and victories.

The annual meeting of the Society of the International Peace Bureau took place at Berne, Switzerland, on the 26th of September, under the presidency of Fredrik Bajer of Denmark. The annual report of the Commission of the Bureau was heard and approved, as also the financial statement and the report of the auditors. The treasury showed a balance in hand of 3927 francs on the first of September.

The meeting fixed the maximum number of members of the Commission at 19, instead of 15 as heretofore, and

elected 17 for the coming year, as follows: Fredrik Bajer, Dr. A. Gobat, Elie Ducommun, W. Marcusen, the Baroness von Suttner, Hodgson Pratt, Frédéric Passy, Emile Arnaud, Henri La Fontaine, Franz Wirth, Dr. Adolf Richter, Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, E. T. Moneta, Miss Ellen Robinson, Magelhaës Lima, L. O. Smith and Benjamin F. Trueblood.

The budget of expenses for the coming year was fixed at 7100 francs. The increase in the estimated expenses was occasioned by the decision of the society to undertake a general subscription in all countries for the support of peace work, to make an effort to see what can be done in securing better school histories, and to have prepared accurate statistics of military expenses in different countries.

The Commission was authorized to act in any cases of emergency in any country, which might be brought to their attention by the peace societies.

The bill providing for military instruction in the schools of the State of New York, which was hurriedly passed by the legislature of that State last spring just before it adjourned, failed to become a law, Governor Morton having refused to give it his signature. This action of the Governor is greatly to be commended. It is in harmony with the best spirit of our age and of our country, and has saved the great Empire State the disgrace of having gone back a hundred years into the darkness and uncivilized conditions of the past. This failure of the movement for the general introduction of military instruction into the schools of New York State, joined to the failure of a like movement in Pennsylvania last winter, ought to put an effectual stop to further agitation in this direction. The American people are opposed, as a whole, to the militarizing of the youth of the country, and the other States will be sure to follow the example of New York and Pennsylvania in refusing to listen to those who would foist in upon us the war-institutions of the Old World. There will be need, however, of watchfulness and of prompt action on the part of the friends of peace, elsewhere as there was in these two States. Much credit was due, for the failure of the New York bill to become a law, to the influence of the State superintendent of Public Instruction and many other educators throughout the State, as also to the prompt protest of the friends of peace in New York city and elsewhere. In Pennsylvania the labor forces greatly aided the other elements in defeating the movement in the legislature itself. There is intelligence and moral strength enough in the nation at large, if rightly concentrated and exercised, to completely head off this military craze at every point and make it impossible for it ever again to become as strong as it just now unfortunately is.

The International League of Peace and Liberty held its annual meeting at Geneva on the 22d of September.

It is not possible to write very intelligently of the British-Venezuelan situation. There is a general feeling that the subject is coming rapidly to a solution of some sort. Secretary Olney has sent a strong note to Lord Salisbury urging that the entire boundary dispute be submitted as soon as practicable to arbitration. Lord Salisbury has acknowledged the receipt of the note, but has not replied to it. The contents of Olney's note are not very accurately known. The British Prime Minister has, on his side, sent an ultimatum to the Venezuelan government demanding indemnity for the arrest of British colonial police. The contents of this ultimatum are likewise, at this writing, but vaguely known. There has been some excited talk on this side of the water about the maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine, accompanied with reports of a combination of European powers to break it down. The newspapers themselves, fortunately, hasten to deny that there is any thought of war among the authorities at Washington or any combination on the other side to rob us of our cherished Monroe doctrine.

Federal Labor Union No. 5335, at its meeting at Cincinnati, Ohio, on September 9th, passed the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, There is on the Ohio statute-books a law prescribing a way to have free school-books in the public schools; and

WHEREAS, This Federal Labor Union, by its committee, waited on the Cincinnati Board of Education to ask that the free-school-book law be put into effect, and said committee was informed that there was no money for such purpose; and

WHEREAS, There is a movement on foot to extend a system of military training in the public schools; and

WHEREAS, We deem a military training in public schools and especially as it is in vogue in this City, dangerous to the youth, and not in any sense a healthy physical training; but as creating dissension and widening the gulf between classes; therefore

RESOLVED, That we repeat our request to the Board of Education to put into effect the statute as to free school-books, and we protest against any expenditure of money for guns and military equipment for children in the public schools as calculated to educate the young to rely on force instead of right and reason, and thereby make them the reverse of good and useful citizens; and

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Board of Education, and a committee be appointed to confer with such organizations as they may find friendly to the spirit of said resolution.

This Cincinnati Labor Union fears that the advocates of military training in the schools will seek to carry out their purpose in the near future in the State of Ohio through legislative enactment, and hence are moving early and earnestly to prevent such action. The resolutions given above have the double merit of being both extremely sensible and clearly and pointedly expressed.

Following up its action of September 9th the Cincinnati Federal Labor Union above mentioned sent out its resolutions to all the local labor organizations, to the churches and to other societies interested, inviting them to send delegates to a conference on the 10th of October, at which steps might be taken in accordance with the resolutions. This Conference was held on the proposed date, and was attended by representatives of various labor organizations, of the W. C. T. U., of the Turners' societies, of a number of churches, and by a number of specially invited individuals. General Kimberly was president of the meeting. Strong addresses were made in support of a resolution asking the Cincinnati Board of Education to put into effect the free-school-book law. Militarism in the schools was strongly condemned, and gymnasiums and the physical culture to be obtained in them as strongly endorsed. A committee of fifteen was appointed to press the resolutions on the attention of the Board of Education. A resolution was passed asking the various organizations represented to appoint members in the various wards to call in person on the members of the School Board and bring the matter to their individual attention. The committee of fifteen subsequently prepared a circular letter to be sent to all the candidates for the State Legislature, asking them to state their opinions in regard to militarism in the schools, and what course they would pursue in case the matter should come before the Legislature.

The Conference adjourned to meet again on the 31st of October.

A correspondent, in writing of the meeting says: "The resolution and intelligent method of the men assembled was *admirable*. They expect to *win*, and they are confident that a school board elected by wards can not afford to oppose such pressure as they will be able to bring. * * The co-operation of the W. C. T. U. has been magnificent."

The weekly paper, *Le Courrier de l'Europe et de Londres*, which has been published at London in the French language for fifty-six years, and has a circulation of 30,000, is to be transformed into a daily. The corresponding committee is composed of twenty-nine members, among whom we find the names of Jules Simon, Hodgson Pratt, Frédéric Passy, etc. The new daily will give careful and impartial attention to all great international questions, and will use its influence to secure the settlement of all international difficulties by peaceful means. Such an organ, under such eminent patronage, must prove a powerful instrument in promoting international good feeling.

The *Cincinnati Tribune* of October 6th states that of the boys' brigades introduced into various churches of that city only one, as far as can be learned, is now in existence, namely, that connected with the Trinity Meth-

odist Church. It is very fortunate for the churches of Cincinnati, and highly creditable to their Christian sense, if they have dropped the evil thing so quickly. General Robert L. Kimberly of that city, in addressing recently a meeting of representative citizens, said in reference to these brigades:

"The churches are taking a prominent part in this revival of the military spirit. The spectacle is saddening and disheartening. 'If any one smite thee on one cheek, turn to him the other,' said the Great Teacher. Yet, today in the churches of His disciples the boys are playing soldier with strident fifes and noisy drums and bayoneted guns. At the appointed hour for rendezvous you may see the striplings crowding into the sacred houses and carrying the implements of war to practise in their use. One not posted might think they are preparing to open stubborn hearts with bayonets that the truth may enter, or imagine that Mohammed's coffin had dropped the prophet to earth again to begin anew his proselyting with fire and scimeter. We cannot believe that God so loved the world that he sent a new race of prophets to teach children the art of butchering their fellows. I am glad to say, however, that the military craze is dying out in the churches. May God speed the day of its extinction and bring the churches back to the old faith."

The Woman's International Peace League founded by Miss Ellen Robinson, Madame Eugénie Potonié-Pierre and other French and English women has already developed to considerable proportions. A number of the leading English lady peaceworkers have connected themselves with the organization. An earnest appeal has been made by the French women to their sisters in Germany to join the League. The invitation sent to the women of America has been responded to by the organization of a League in Connecticut, chartered under the laws of the State, to be known as the Woman's International Peace League of America. Its President is Mrs. Mary Frost Ormsby, and its Secretary Miss Christine V. Whipple of Mystic, Conn.

Miss Frances E. Willard, in her address at Baltimore on the 18th ult., pronounced the reform which involves the substitution of international arbitration for war "the greatest of all reforms."

The following interesting and instructive passage from Dr. William Everett's brilliant oration delivered in Boston on the occasion of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the death of Col. William Prescott shows how different certain bits of history look when interpreted by accurate knowledge and perfect fairness from what they seem to be when viewed by eyes full of self-glorification and animosity towards others:

"There is no doubt also that William Prescott joined the expedition which removed the French colonists from Nova Scotia in 1755; an event which forms the theme of Mr. Longfellow's poem of 'Evangeline,' and had previously offered itself as a subject for romance to Hawthorne.

"It speaks volumes for the genius of our New England poet that his version of this exile, an occurrence that undoubtedly showed many sad and painful features, has been till lately accepted without question among us, as the story of an act of unmitigated oppression by English tyrants on the most innocent and virtuous of mankind. It seems to be supposed by some persons who are of pure English descent and whose ancestors in 1755 had no more notion of being anything but Englishmen than Washington had, that their independent station as Americans and friends of liberty is somehow strengthened by convicting England of tyranny exercised upon persons of French descent, at a time when the government of France was the most corrupt and profligate, if not the most despotic in Europe. Such persons have not found out what, indeed, Mr. Longfellow does not hint in 'Evangeline,' that every English army that marched to New France was full of Provincials like Prescott, who were as keen to make war on the priest ridden French as Braddock or Amherst or Loudoun or Wolfe; that their chaplains, New England ministers of the deepest Puritan dye, looked upon every Nova Scotian as the bond slave of the Roman Babylon, and that the officer who shut up the men of Grand Pré in the church and announced their sentence of deportation, was John Winslow of Marshfield, as pure a child of the Mayflower as any in Plymouth county.

"I must feel that Mr. Longfellow went beyond the bounds of legitimate adaptation when he so constructed his tale of the depopulation of Grand Pré as to paint its authors in the darkest colors, and yet suppress the fact that his own countrymen were the ones chiefly engaged in seeing that orders were carried out.

"The entire occurrence, which is no better or worse than a score of others which owe their existence to the fiend of war, all whose children are tainted with his own corruption, has been exaggerated, weakened, distorted, perverted, in order to make out a case against old England in which, whatever its lights and shades, New England had its full share."

We agree most fully with *Concord* in what it says about the danger and the wickedness of offensive and defensive alliances between nations. They are founded either in the spirit of tyranny and aggression, or in that of hatred, jealousy and fear. Whatever the origin, they are at bottom the denial and renunciation of national independence and self-direction. There is no moral justification whatever for them, no more than there would be for such a bargaining away of his liberties by one man to another. Here are some impressive sentences from *Concord* whose truth can not be gainsaid:

To illustrate our meaning, let us refer to the two Alliances which dominate Europe at the present time, and ask what purpose each has in view. The object of the Triple Alliance is to prevent France from undoing the results of 1870-71, and recovering possession of Alsace-Lorraine. The object of the Dual Alliance is to counteract the Triple Alliance, and, it is said, something much more serious. The two great States, bound fast to each other, politically and financially, are believed to have an agreement under which the one supports the other in all claims which either may make upon any third Power. In other words, these two Alliances threaten each other per-

manently, and steadily increase their respective forces, in view of a possible collision, in which five enormous armies will be engaged.

It is monstrous that nation A should find itself suddenly involved in conflict with nation B because of some dispute the merits of which it knows absolutely nothing. In other words, one nation may be hurled against another nation with which it has no quarrel whatever, and which may have done no wrong! Surely such an agreement is the acme of wickedness and injustice, and is one which the peoples should everywhere condemn; and surely the peacemakers should take the lead in that condemnation—in a word, against defensive and offensive Alliances. These latter, too, enormously extend the area of war, and bring its cruel and shameful horrors upon millions of men wholly innocent and wholly ignorant of its cause.

Europe will fall back into universal barbarism if we do not see the danger which is threatened by these rival alliances. In constitutional States, at least, the citizens, if they choose, may exercise some control over their Governments in regard to "foreign affairs," though, unfortunately, they make no effort to control them. But how is it with Russia? The Autocrat who rules on the Neva can, at a moment's notice, move enormous armies, without a word of explanation; and Republican France places her hand in his and says: "At thy disposal, O gracious friend and brother, we place implicitly our armies and navies." Is not this condition of things an absolute menace to all religious and political liberty? Is it not an absolute denial of all true progress—the very antithesis of those "principles of the Revolution" upon which France bases her claim to lead and illumine the world? What does the *people* of Russia—the true Russia as distinguished from the Autocrat and his military chiefs—think or desire in this matter of the Franco-Russian Alliance? We have been assured by one of those brave and noble friends of "Free Russia" who are toiling to give to their country the elementary "rights of man"—some voice in national affairs, some small instalment of religious and political liberty—that they dread this extension of the enormous power of the Russian Czar, and that they therefore dread this alliance with France.

The October number of the London *Herald of Peace* says that "the work entrusted to the joint Anglo-Russian Commission, for the delimitation of the frontier to the east of Victoria Lake, has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and the boundary line has been defined, up to the Chinese frontier. The northern frontier of Afghanistan is now delimited, from Zulfikar on the Heri Rud, to the Pamirs. The line follows the course set forth in the Anglo-Russian agreement of 1873, up to the Victoria Lake, and the demarcation now completed gives effect to the Pamir agreement entered into with Russia this year. It now only remains for the two Governments to ratify the work of their Commissioners. The intercourse between the British and Russian officers, engaged on the Commission, was of an exceptionally friendly character."

Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey's report of the department of peace and arbitration at the National Convention of the

W. C. T. U. at Baltimore on the 21st of October was an unusually strong and interesting one. The work of this gifted and wise Christian woman, with the earnest co-operation of many W. C. T. U. women throughout the land, is already beginning to bear fruit in a most encouraging way. Her report at Baltimore reviews the influence of the peace congresses, the work of the late Inter-parliamentary Conference at Brussels, the formation of the Woman's International Peace League, the growing opposition of European women to war, the work of the Arbitration Alliance of the Churches, has a word of strong condemnation for the course of the French in Madagascar and utters a protest of exceptional clearness and pointedness against the Boys' Brigade. She says that the "Golden Rule can by no means be carried into action without the destruction of every arsenal in the world and the bleaching of every banner until it becomes an emblem of peace." "It is late in the day for us to train up boys with guns and swords in hand; it is a mockery of the gospel of good will; it is materialistic and unbrotherly. Whoever favors it, we cannot. The clash of murderous weapons within the precincts of the church and at the very altar-side must never go without a protest from the nation's mothers, wives and daughters." "No matter who will hear or who will forbear, for us there is but one plain path. We have been the target of criticism for more than twenty years, but never in a better cause than when we stood solidly against this most unchristian invasion. We have no right to do evil that good may come; we have no right to keep boys off the street by turning their amusements into the mimicry of battle."

The city of Frankfort-on-the-Main refused to give the ten thousand marks which it was asked to contribute for the celebration of the anniversary of the battle of Sedan. Instead, the municipal authorities voted twenty thousand marks for the support of the unfortunate veterans of the war. We know not which was the nobler deed, the doing of the one, or the refusal to do the other.

The French captured Antananarivo, the capital of the Hova government, on the 8th of October. The Queen is to be maintained on the throne, but under an exclusive French protectorate. The prime minister, the husband of the Queen, is to be exiled. President Faure has appointed the commander of the expedition, General Duchesne, a grand officer of the Legion of Honor. Madagascar medals are to be struck for the soldiers who took part in the campaign. *Te Deums* have been sung in Notre Dame at Paris and in provincial churches. The Senate and Chamber of Deputies, through their presiding officers, have joined in the general jubilation that the French arms have won a "glorious victory," after a "brilliant action," over the weak little people of the Hovas! Poor blinded country! The only encouraging

thing about it all is that France has had the goodness not to annex Madagascar outright, and that there are multitudes of people all over the country, founders of the New France that is to be, who are ashamed of the whole Madagascar expedition as utterly unworthy of a country so devotedly attached to liberty.

Mr. William Wetmore Story, the distinguished American sculptor, who had resided for many years in Italy, died in Vallambrosa on the 6th of October at the age of 76. He was the son of Chief-Justice Story, and was a man of varied talents, being almost as distinguished in letters as in sculpture. He had been for a number of years one of the honorary vice-presidents of the American Peace Society and represented the society in the Peace Congress held in Rome in November, 1891.

The big beastly bruisers are having a deservedly hard time of it. They have been outlawed by Mexico where some things are considered worse than bull-fights. The United States government has driven them out of its territories and set a "flaming sword turning every way" to keep them out. The Governor (all the world ought to write his name with a capital) and Legislature of Texas have done themselves everlasting credit by the new law against prize-fighting which has forced the sluggers to move on. The Governor of Arkansas has made a manly fight to keep them from disgracing his State. And now at the last hour when it seemed that the fight was to be "pulled off" at Hot Springs, because of the weakness of the law, the two sluggers have fallen out with each other and Corbett has declared that he has quit the ring forever. We are mightily pleased with this great uprising of the country against this barbarous and inhuman business (we can not call it sport), and have hopes that it will prove something more than a spasm of righteousness.

Secretary Olney has received a note from the French ambassador inviting the United States to participate in the International Exposition to be held at Paris in the year 1900.

The Sultan has at last yielded to the demands made upon him by the powers and issued an imperial decree promising to institute the proposed reforms in Armenia. The disorder in Constantinople has measurably ceased.

President Cleveland has issued an order placing under the civil service rules all consular posts worth not less than \$1000 nor more than \$2500 a year. Our consular service has heretofore been a disgrace to us. This is a very important step toward placing it on a sensible and the only right basis.

Frances E. Willard, in her annual address at the Baltimore National Convention of the W. C. T. U., October 18th, spoke as follows :

"The attack of France upon Madagascar whose queen is a White-Ribbon woman and welcomed Mrs. Leavitt, attended her meetings and gave a hundred dollars to help her on her way, must from our point of view seem little less than a barbarous assault. The Hovas are a noble people; Madagascar was happy and temperate under her righteous queen, and it is a spectacle painful to witness, the great powers standing by while France breaks up a peaceful kingdom under the mild sway of a woman who practises as well as preaches the Golden Rule. * * *

"The Empress of Japan takes the leadership of the Red Cross and makes no distinction between Chinese and Japanese in her ministrations of mercy; to day she is the central figure in her empire for Christian progress. The Dowager Empress of China is the same in that great realm to-day; she is a reader of the New Testament and as much outraged by the recent massacres as we are.

"The same place is occupied by the Queen Regent of Spain who will not attend a bull-fight; and was by the Empress Regent of Germany in her merciful work for the flood-sufferers during the hundred days when Frederick the Good was nominally, but the Empress really, at the helm of state; so was the Empress Regent of Brazil when, during the absence of Dom Pedro, she freed the slaves."

Miss Willard has very substantial reasons for believing that "good men," "by unshackling the merciful hand of woman," will "secure power enough to carry to success their measures of beneficence," in which they have been so long and so often defeated.

On the last night of September two immense meetings were held in Chicago in the interests of Cuban independence. The mayor presided at one of them and a large number of men prominent in civic affairs were present and participated. Resolutions were passed denouncing the cruel oppression of Cuba by Spain, and declaring it to be the duty of the United States government to recognize the rights of the Cubans as belligerents as soon as possible. Similar resolutions were passed on Oct. 4th at the South Carolina Constitutional Convention. There is no doubt that these meetings and resolutions express the general sentiment of the people of the country in regard to Cuban independence. There is no dislike of Spain as such in this country, but her oppressive course with Cuba both in the past and the present meets with universal and unqualified condemnation. Meanwhile the Administration continues to maintain perfect neutrality as it is bound to do by the law of nations and our treaty with Spain. The Brazilian minister at Washington has received a dispatch from Rio Janeiro stating that the Brazilian government will act in accord with the United States as regards the recognition of the Cuban insurgents as belligerents. There is but little change in the condition of things in Cuba. Spain is preparing to close the ports of the island with torpedoes and to push the war vigorously. The insurgents on the other hand are as united and determined as ever, and it is evident that they do not mean to yield until the

last extremity. Spain ought to set Cuba free without an hour's delay. Only that will meet the demands of right and satisfy the conscience of the civilized world.

Peace Sunday, the third Sunday in December, will fall this year on the 15th of the month. Let all the churches throughout the country prepare to observe it in at least one service, with a sermon or other appropriate exercises.

NEW BOOKS.

SOUTHERN HEROES; or the Friends in War Time. By F. G. Cartland. 500 pages, cloth. Handsomely bound. Illustrated. Introduction by B. F. Trueblood, LL.D. Price \$3.00, postpaid. Address the author at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., or send to this office.

This remarkable book ought to be in the hands of every one interested in the history of the cause of peace, and in the present rapidly developing peace movement. It gives in a simple but graphic way, which must interest every reader, an account of the trials, persecutions, imprisonments, dreadful sufferings, loyalty to their principles and to the United States government, and remarkable deliverances of the Friends in the South during the Civil War. This important and instructive portion of the history of the great struggle against slavery has never before been written except in the most fragmentary way. Mr. Cartland, who lived in the South for twenty years immediately subsequent to the war and had exceptional opportunities of learning the exact nature of the facts recorded, has patiently gathered together all the essential features of the history of the Friends during the War and combined them in his book in a manner which makes the whole series of events stand out in a living and picturesque form.

It is useless to attempt to exhibit the character of the book by quotations. Whoever commences it will not want to stop until he has reached the last word. A careful reading of it will convince any fair mind that peace principles, even of the extreme non-resistant type, are not only not chimerical but of the most practical character even in the midst of the most extraordinary difficulties.

WASHINGTON, OR THE REVOLUTION. A Drama, by Ethan Allen. 200 pages. Illustrated. F. Tennyson Neely, publisher, New York and Chicago. Price 50 cents, paper covers.

THE FREE TRADE STRUGGLE IN ENGLAND. By M. M. Trumbull. 288 pages. Paper covers. The Open Court Publishing Company, Chicago.

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they had forsaken the Lord God of their fathers." So they executed judgment against Joash (II. Chronicles xxiv. 24).

AMAZIAH, 839 B.C.

Whilst he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, it was not with a perfect heart (II. Chronicles xxv. 2). He organized an army which numbered 300,000 chosen men, able to go forth to war, that could handle

spear and shield. When, however, he was fitting out an expedition against the Edomites, he hired 100,000 men of Ephraim, for which he paid 100 talents of silver. After the men had arrived, a man of God warned him against taking them, for the Lord was not with Israel, to wit, with all the children of Ephraim. "But if thou wilt go, do it, be strong for the battle. God shall make thee fall before the enemy, for God hath power to help and to cast down" (II. Chronicles xxv. 7, 8). But what shall we do said Amaziah, for the 100 talents of silver. And the man of God answered: "The Lord is able to give thee much more than this." So the Ephraimites were, much to their disgust, sent back, and Amaziah invaded Edom and gained a considerable victory.

Strange to say when he came from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the children of Seir and set them up to be his gods, and bowed himself down before them, and burned incense unto them. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against him, and he sent a prophet to ask: Why hast thou sought after the gods of the people, which could not deliver their own people out of thine hand. But Amaziah continued in his idolatry, whereupon God turned his heart to go up against the King of Israel, who defeated him and brought him a prisoner to Jerusalem, and broke down the wall of Jerusalem and took great spoil. Finally his own people conspired against him because he had forsaken the Lord, and they put him to death.

UZZIAH, 811 B.C.,

seems to have followed the Lord during most of his long reign of 52 years. We read that God helped him against the Philistines and the Arabians, and the Ammonites gave him gifts and his name spread abroad, even to the entering in of Egypt, for he strengthened himself exceedingly (II. Chronicles xxvi.). Uzziah had an host of fighting men that went out to war by bands, an army of 307,500, that made war with mighty power to help the king against the enemy. And Uzziah prepared for them throughout all the host shields and spears, and helmets, and habergeons, and bows, and slings to cast stones. And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by cunning men, to be on the tower, and on the bulwarks, to shoot arrows and great stones withal (II. Chronicles xxvi. 14-16). For he was marvellously helped till he was strong, and when he was strong his heart was lifted up to his destruction, for he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple to burn incense upon the altar of incense. For this God smote him with leprosy, and after living for some years as a leper in a separate house, he died.

JOTHAM, 759 B.C.,

followed the footsteps of his father in doing that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and, like him, built cities in the mountains of Judah, and in the forests castles and towers. He fought also with the king of the Ammonites, and prevailed against them, so that they paid him tribute in silver and wheat and barley for three years. He became mighty because he prepared his ways before the Lord his God (II. Chronicles xxvii. 6).

AHAZ, 743 B.C.,

did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of the kings of Israel. He made molten images for Baalim, and burnt incense in the valley of the son of Hinnom, and burnt his children in the fire after the abominations of the heathen (II. Chronicles xxviii. 2-6). Wherefore the Lord his God delivered him into the hand